



Paper No. 4

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Mailed

JUN 27 2000

Director's Office
Group 2700

In re Application of :
Sean J. Egan :
Application No. 09/418,184 :
Filed: October 12, 1999 :
For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR :
ASSIGNING RATINGS TO MUTUAL :
FUNDS AND OTHER INVESTMENT :
FUNDS BASED ON THE VALUE OF :
VARIOUS FUTURE AND OPTION :
SECURITIES :

DECISION ON PETITION TO
MAKE SPECIAL

This is a decision on the petition filed May 12, 2000, to make the above-identified application special.

The petition requests that the above-identified application be made special but does not specify the grounds under which the application should be made special as set forth in the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure § 708.02. The instant petition is considered under the accelerated examination procedure set forth in M.P.E.P. § 708.02, Section VIII: Accelerated Examination.

A grantable petition to make special under 37 C.F.R. § 1.102 and in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 708.02, Item VIII, must be accompanied by (a) the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(I), (b) a statement that all claims are directed to a single invention or an offer to make an oral election without traverse should the Patent and Trademark Office hold that the claims are not directed to a single invention, (c) a statement that a pre-examination search has been made by the inventor, attorney, agent, professional searcher, etc., and a listing of the field of search by class and subclass, (d) one copy of each of the references deemed most closely related to the subject matter encompassed by the claims, and (e) a detailed description of the submitted references and discussions pointing out how the claimed subject matter is distinguishable over these references.

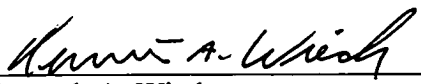
The petition lacks requirements (b), (c), (d) and (e). The petition does not include a statement that all claims are directed to a single invention or an offer to make an oral election without traverse should the Patent and Trademark Office hold that the claims are not directed to a single invention; a listing of the field of search by class and subclass or a detailed discussion pointing out how the claimed subject matter is distinguishable over the prior art.

For the above stated reasons, the petition is **DENIED**.

Should applicant desire reconsideration, he or she should supplement this petition by including the information as outlined above or specify the reason the above-identified application should be made special as set forth in the MPEP § 708.02 I-VIII and provide the information required as set forth therein. No further petition fee is required.

Any request for reconsideration must be filed within **TWO MONTHS** from the date of this decision.

The application is being forwarded to the Technology Center's Central Files and will await action in its regular turn.



Kenneth A. Wieder
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